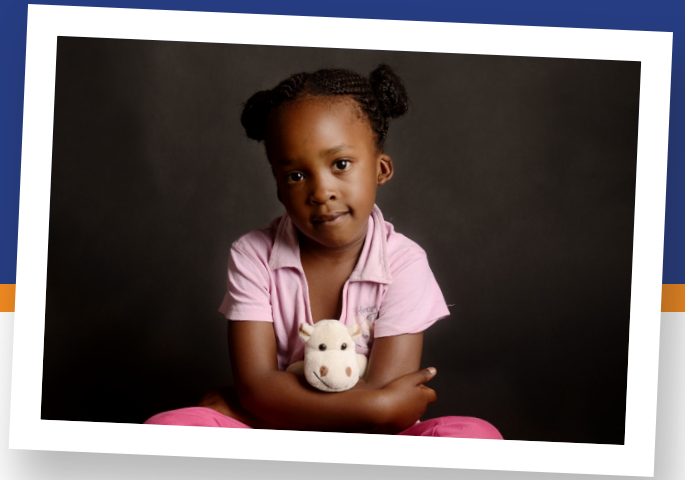


NOTICE OF RIGHTS FOR A CHILD IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE IN ARIZONA

AS A CHILD IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE YOU HAVE THE *right*:



- To live with a relative or in a place that is like a family, with your siblings or close to your siblings if possible, that provides supervision and guidance that you need, allows you to participate in normal, age appropriate activities, and where you are safe from being taken advantage of.
- To live in a safe, healthy and comfortable home where your caregivers speak the same language as you, show you respect, keep you safe, give you personal privacy, healthy food in appropriate portions, and clothing that fits comfortably and is weather appropriate.
- To have personal possessions (as long as they are appropriate) and enough personal space to store all of your belongings in your home.
- To know why you are in out-of-home care and what will happen to you, your siblings, and your family. You also have the right to help create your case plan and permanency plan, participate in case plan and permanency planning meetings, and receive a copy or summary of each plan and review. You may request someone to participate on your behalf or to support you in this participation.
- To have visits and contact with your family, including siblings, while you are away from home, with any limitations explained to you in a way you can understand.
- To receive guidance and non-physical discipline that is appropriate to your age and maturity level to help you develop and maintain positive behaviors, self-control, self-reliance and self-esteem.
- To remain in your current school, if possible, or to be enrolled in another school setting, as appropriate.
- To attend community, school, extracurricular and religious services and activities of your choice, as agreed to by your caregivers, and to receive an education that meets your individual needs.
- To learn to take care of your personal hygiene and grooming.
- To have contact information for your DCS Specialist, attorney and advocate, speak with them in private if necessary, attend and be represented by an attorney at court hearings and speak to the judge.
- To have your records and personal information kept private and only given to people who need the information in order to take care of you, and on a need to know basis.
- To have necessary medical, dental, vision, behavioral health and substance abuse treatment and services, to be informed about diagnoses and treatment options as appropriate, and to be free of unnecessary or excessive medication.
- To contact the Arizona Protection and Advocacy System for Disability Assistance at center@azdisabilitylaw.org or by calling 1-800-922-1447 or 1-800-927-2260. The Arizona Center for Disability Law is a protection and advocacy system that makes sure the rights of persons with disabilities are protected by investigating reports of abuse and neglect violations of the rights of persons with disabilities. (A disability is a condition of the body or mind that makes it more difficult to do certain activities and interact with the world around you.)
- To understand and receive a copy of these rights, and to report a violation of these rights without fear of punishment. To report a violation, you may contact your DCS Specialist, the DCS Ombudsman at 602-364-0777 (Toll Free 877-527-0765) or Ombudsman@azdcs.gov, Ombudsman-Citizens' Aide at 602-277-7292 or Ombuds@azoca.gov, your attorney/GAL or speak to the judge in court. You may also write to the judge.

AS A YOUTH OVER 14 YEARS OLD, YOU ALSO HAVE THE *right*:



Conflict Resolution Process

- 1 Address your Issue Directly with the DCS Specialist
If you are not satisfied with the outcome, then
- 2 Request a Conflict Resolution Conference by contacting the Child Safety Specialist's Supervisor
If you are not satisfied with the outcome, then
- 3 Contact the DCS Office of the Ombudsman:
via email: Ombudsman@azdcs.gov
via phone: 602-364-0777 or
via online complaint form:
<https://dcs.az.gov/resource/complaint-or-disagreement>



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of **CHILD SAFETY**

- To learn life skills and participate in activities that allow you to practice these skills.
- To receive a copy of your credit report every year, and get help fixing it if it contains information that is wrong.
- To a transition plan that includes career planning and assistance with enrolling in an educational or vocational job training program.
- To be informed of educational opportunities before you leave out-of-home care including information about assistance and funding for education.
- To participate in or re-enter extended foster care from ages 18 to 21, if eligible.
- To assistance in obtaining a place to live when you are ready to leave out-of-home care.
- To request a court hearing to determine if you can consent to your own medical care.
- To receive help with obtaining a driver's license, Social Security number, birth certificate or state identification card before turning 18.
- To receive personal information prior to being discharged from out-of-home care, including your birth certificate, Social Security card, health insurance information and medical records including immunization records, educational records, and a driver's license or equivalent state-issued identification card.

Above notice of rights is pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-529

CSO-3121 Rev. 9-23